

## Land & Water Conservation Committee

June 7, 2013

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on June 7, 2013 in the Lower Level Conference Room #2, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

**Present:** The following persons were present: County Board members; Ralph Sitzberger, Dennis Nielsen, Kathleen Rushlow, Mary Kim Black, and others – Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, Mariquita Sheehan, Steve Budnick (VCLRA & Conservation Congress), Roland Alger (VCLRA)  
The following County Board member(s) was excused: Lorin Johnson;  
The following County Board member(s) was absent:  
Media present:

**Approve Agenda: Motion made by Rushlow, second by Nielsen, to approve the agenda in any order at the chairman's discretion. All voting aye, motion carried.**

**Approve Minutes: Motion made by Black, second by Rushlow, to approve the minutes from May 3, 2013 of this committee. All voting aye, motion carried.**

### **Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program:**

Irish had no report and did not attend.

### **Lake Organizations, ER Unified Lakes Commission (ULERCLC) & Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association (VCLRA):**

**VCLRA** –The “Celebrating Lakes Day” will be on June 14, 2013 at the Conserve School in Land O’Lakes.

**DATCP Business:** Scholl reported that JFC restored funding for county conservation staff in the DATCP budgets. This means that for the 2014-2015 budget, the department will receive an increase of 10% over 2012. ATCP 50 revisions will be voted on by the DATCP Board in September. If passed the revisions come into effect June 2014 and non-agricultural counties will receive less Bond funding.

**Review of 2014-2015 Department Budget: A motion by Rushlow, seconded by Nielsen, reviewed the proposed 2014-2015 budget and recommended sending it on to the Finance Director.**

*(Sheehan arrived 9:17)*

**Legislator's Field Day:** A proposal to invite legislators to a field day for Vilas and Oneida Counties to see what conservation departments do. **Motion by Rushlow, seconded by Black to organize a Legislators' Field Day. All voting aye, motion carried.**

**Funding Mechanisms: Motion by Black, seconded by Rushlow to move ahead with pursuing different options for funding by inviting John G. (WI DNR Northern Region Director), Carroll Schaal (WI DNR Lakes Team Program & Policy Analyst), and Jim Vandenbrook (WLWCA Executive Director) to an LCC meeting. All voting aye, motion carried.**

### **Agent reports - UWEX, FSA, LWCD, NRCS, NCLWCA, Lumberjack RC&D:**

**LWCD:** Staff distributed their written reports (on file in the LWCD office). **Ritter** reported that that the WHIP summer intern surveying the County Highways is receiving plenty of assistance from Adam Grassl in **County Mapping** with the data management. He also shared that WHIP will receive \$5000 from a Wisconsin Worm Watch project. **Sheehan** is working with Dale Mayo from

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**County Forestry, Recreation and Lands** on several projects. She proposed field trip for the LCC to visit some Shoreland Restoration projects **Scholl** reported that so far 15 campers have signed up for Youth Conservation Camp. She submitted a form requesting payment for the old AIS grant to Sitzberger for a signature. **NCLWA** is revising their by-laws.

### **Out-of-county travel:**

**A motion by Black, second by Rushlow, to approve the following out of county travel:** Scholl – June 26 to Stevens Point for the Lakes Conference Planning Meeting. Sheehan – June 26 to Kemp Station for APM Training, and on October 6-10 to Madison for the SER Conference. **All voting aye, motion carried.**

### **Monthly Budget Review:**

### **Letters and Communications:**

The following items are on file in the LWCD office: RC&D brochure, DATCP Report April 2013; Forestry Notes, May 2013; Northwoods Land Trust May 2013; Central WI River Grazier's Network News, June 1 2013. Nielsen will be attending a meeting in Boulder Junction on June 11 about addressing the future of Turtle Pond at the request of the Town Chair.

### **Future Meeting Dates/Items:**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday July 5, 2013 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521.

### **Adjournment:**

**Meeting was adjourned by Sitzberger at 10:20 a.m.**

Minutes reflect the recorder's notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.

Respectfully submitted by: *Quita Sheehan*